

## **IN THE CLAIMS:**

The status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 1-12. (Canceled).

13. (Original) An apparatus to decrease resonance in a printed circuit board, comprising:

a signal trace line for carrying a signal;

a ground plane for connecting said signal trace line to a ground;

a cut in said ground plane for increasing the transit time of said signal through said ground plane.

14. (Original) An apparatus in accordance with claim 13, further comprising:  
an additional length segment within said signal trace line for increasing the transit time of said signal through said signal trace line;

said additional length segment when added to said signal trace line increases the transit time at said signal through said signal trace line out of a resonance range.

15. (Original) An apparatus in accordance with claim 13, wherein:  
said cut is oriented substantially perpendicular to a long axis of the PCB.

16. (Original) A claim in accordance with claim 13, wherein:  
said cut is continuous.

17. (Original) A claim in accordance with claim 13 wherein:  
said cut is a zipper cut.

18. (Original) A claim in accordance with claim 13, wherein:  
said cut terminates more than 10 mils from said signal trace line.

19. (Original) An apparatus in accordance with claim 13, wherein:  
a plurality of said cuts are similarly located with a PCB layer.